

COURT OF NEW SOUTH WALES.
In the Estate of **ALFRED**

SOWDEN, late of Belair Creek, Warton,
of New South Wales, Grazier, deceased,
Notice will be made after fourteen

publication board, that witnesses of the crime be
CHARLOTTE BOWEN, the widow of the
and all persons having knowledge of the
address. All persons having any
facts to furnish particulars thereof to the
within one month of the date of adminis-
tration. J. BOWEN, Clerk of the Adminis-
tration. By His Agents, BARREY and
McIntosh, Solicitors.

SUPREME COURT OF NEW SOUTH WALES
JURISDICTION.—In the Will of JOHN
WILLIAMS, late of the County of West
of London.—Application will be made after
from the publication hereof to the Court
of the above-named Will, and the same may be
ESTHER PERD, the sole Executrix in the
said Will, to produce to the Court the said
clature to the undersigned before the
said first day of the month of January
at the office of H. M. BLOOMFIELD,
Executor, Carpenter, Bag-
gins, and Hill, of Hunter-street,
Sydney.

SUPREME COURT OF NEW SOUTH
WALLES.—In the Will of
of London.—Application will be made after
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gins, and Hill, of Hunter-street,
Sydney.

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Date of the 1st day of February:
 JAMES E. DODD, of St. George's-Parish, Parish Agent for the SLAVE-TRADE, and
 of the Administration.
 TENDERS.
 MAN GAS-LIGHT COMPANY.
 TENDERS FOR ACCOUNT BOOKS.
 addressed to the Secretary, will be received
 until 4 p.m. on WEDNESDAY, the 14th
 of FEBRUARY, 1844, at the Office of the
 Agents and Specification may be seen on applica-
 tion, Office, 163 Kent-street, Sydney.
 or may be had on the Secretary's order.
 J. J. LUNNEY, Secretary.
 addressed Office: 163 Kent-street, Sydney.
 March, 1844.
 Notice.—Price wanted, Iron Fence (Iron) of
 new building, Maddocks-street, Petersham.
 —Wanted, Price for small job. 208

Plaster Coatings, outside, Dan Way;
 Chemical Lab, Science, Y. Glick;
 Trenchers (hand), John J. Glick;
 Shovel, Evans and Co., Hill Hill, Inc.
 144 - Price for pair the best quality
 in Rainbow and Arden, Co., Coog.
 145 - Filing Cabinet, Apply Rowlands
 146 - 3, Francis
 147 - Filing Cols, Joe, Albert S. Bel-
 148 - Y - Tenders for the Supply of LEAD
 Pentose and Black, Blasting Paper, Sealing
 Lab (in) in the Department of
 and Red Tape, will be received at the
 Department on SATURDAY, the 15th instant, tender
 their particulars may be obtained on ap-
 149 - CROCKMAN, Executive Member,
 150 - Supply Committee,
 151 - Labour only, Foundation, large me-
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KNOWLEDGE TRON
7 CONDITIONS
 1. Maintaining your Garagesprung from Crum's
 is the best quality at lowest value
 2. All sizes and gauges, plain and con-
 crete and best brands are kept.
 3. You can telephone your order, getting
 the best prices on tires, tubes, valves,
 tire-capping, tanks, bats, washing
 machines, etc.
 4. On your showrooms, or if you telephone
 us, or if a representative will
 call, or if you wish to see
 E. CRANE AND SONS, Ltd.,
 1000 Brick St., Newland, 142 Geo. St.,
 Glasgow, Scotland, or 1000
 Pitt Street, Circular Quay, Sydney,
 Australia.
 5. Good Machine Tools for carting, Mac-
 hines, etc.
 6. **REPAIRS TO RUBBERS**—if you require Lark, Wain
 or any other make of RUBBER, we can
 place in Sydney for you.
 7. **REPAIRS TO RUBBERS**—if you require
 Lark, Wain or any other make of RUBBER,
 we can place in Sydney for you.
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 Glasgow, Scotland, or 1000
 Pitt Street, Circular Quay, Sydney,
 Australia.

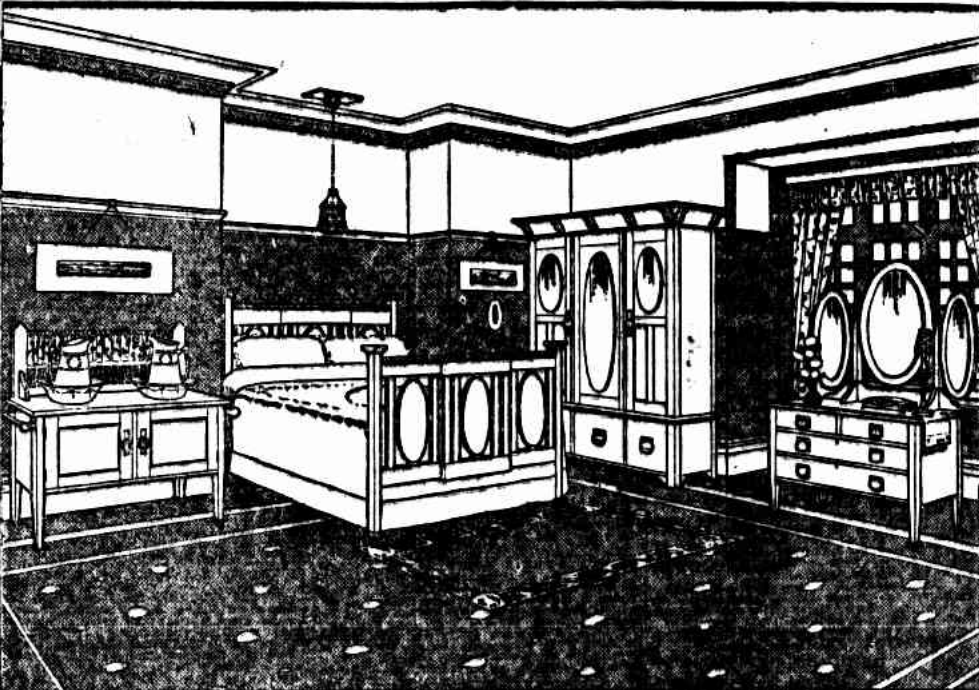
Pipe, etc., Pottery G. F. CRANE and
Sons, Fall River, Circular 204.
Dressed and Rubble Stone, All kinds,
Twelvevay street, Gloucestershire, Aptons Pale
Lime, together with large quantity Timber,
connecting Newland, 141 George Street, West.
Manufacturers direct for Boring, Drilling, Blasting,
T. Cross, Ltd., 1, Rotherhithe St., City 790.
and Graham—See under Boring and Drilling.
Best prices? If you telephone City
No. 41, Munro's Iron Metal Quarries,
and Wyndham Street, London.

ORGANIC CHEMICALS ETC.
"ORGAC" brand Mark, Specially-prepared
Jars and Bottles, all chemical apparatus,
all chemicals. Wholesale, Retail and

A BEAUTIFUL BEDROOM SUITE

Priced to Suit the Heavily Taxed Purse.

If there is a Bedroom Suite in Sydney that merits your careful consideration from the standpoints of beauty and moderate price, it is this. Read this faithful description, then come and see the suite. The price saves you a full 3/- in the £ on equal value at other stores. The design is unprocureable elsewhere in Sydney.



3-Piece Solid Oak Bedroom Suite.

THE WARDROBE is five feet wide with three-quarters of its hanging space fitted with rods and hooks. The balance of the space is taken up by useful sliding trays. It is a handsome wardrobe with elegant oval mirrors.

THE DRESSING TABLE is 3ft 6in wide, and has four drawers with central oval mirror and side swinging reflecting mirrors.

THE WASHSTAND is 3ft 6in wide, with pedestal cupboard attached. The back is fitted with beautiful pleated silk to suit any color of furnishings.

This Superb Suite Complete for £32/10/-

THE BEDSTEAD is 4ft 6in, in solid oak to match the suite, and has three dainty oval panels. It is complete with the finest quality wire mattress and bedding.

Complete, £12/10/-

Bebarfald's Household Linen.

A huge variety—one of the largest in the city, and a really beautiful assortment.

More words could not describe our linen goods; if you need anything in this way be assured that you'll see some unique and pretty things at 3/- in the £ lower in price than elsewhere.

Bebarfald's Crockery Section.

Have you seen it?—It's on the first floor.

It's one of the largest in the city, and all the goods are laid out on tables so that you can see them easily and well.

Many of these goods cannot be bought elsewhere in Sydney. The prices will save you a full 3/- in the £.

Bebarfald's Huge Catalog.

The largest general Catalog in Australia. It is worth 5/- of your good money. Everything—from a sewing machine to a baby carriage. Not a price in it but saves you 3/- on every 2 you spend; 1/- for every 10/-. Write your name below, post the coupon, and we'll send you a copy at once.

BEARFALD'S, LTD.
(Opp. the Town Hall).
SYDNEY.

Please send me your latest General Catalog, which saves me 3/- in the £ on everything I buy from you.

NAME.....
ADDRESS.....

BEARFALD'S, Ltd.,

"THE FURNITURE STORE THAT SAVES YOU MONEY."

536-538 GEORGE-ST., SYDNEY (TOWN HALL).

THE RED KITE.

BY WILLIAM A. HENRY.

(ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.)

CHAPTER XIV.—Continued.

He darted from the room before they could intervene. Chetwood and the others followed at each other in half-numerous dismay.

"It seems a humiliating thing," said the former, "for two of us to be able to make a mere old of a Dermot's coat after his mind. But there you are. We haven't. Let's see if we can't make it out. I'm inclined to take the warning seriously."

"So am I," assented Chetwood.

Together they walked in the direction of the main hall. They were in the "Gables." Arthur Brand looked grave when he heard their tale.

"We mustn't neglect the younger's hint," he said. "These cunning devils are capable of anything. The Red Kite must be left alone. To be quite on the safe side, I'll go on guard this morning. We can't afford to neglect the other later."

In the face of all protests that it was the turn of the younger men first, he marched off to his room. His tailcoat over his shoulder.

When James Brand stepped out of the wardrobe, he found the door open. He was startled to find that the door was open. He was startled to find that the door was open.

RELIGIOUS LITERATURE.

ATLAS OF THE HOLY LAND.

It is unnecessary to point out to students of biblical literature the value of an accurate and comprehensive atlas. Hitherto the best atlas of Palestine available were the work of German scholars, such as those by Rieckert and by Guthe. Now we have one of a British scholar, aided by a British cartographer, which takes first place. Principal G. A. Smith, of Aberdeen, has long been a foremost place as an expert in Old Testament cartography. He has already written a book on the geography of Palestine. The present work is the crown of 23 years' labour. The 69 maps which make up this volume cover almost every conceivable aspect of the Holy Land, and the biblical student is able to follow the varied fortunes of that small sea-board country which has played so great a part in the history of the world. The cartographer's work was under the capable supervision of Bartholomew, of Edinburgh, and that well-known map-maker never did a more beautiful bit of work than this. It may be permitted also to express gratification that since this atlas was published the author has received from his Majesty the King the honour of knighthood. One of the few cases of such an honour bestowed upon a minister of the Gospel. Mr. G. A. Smith is also moderator-elect of the forthcoming general assembly of the United Free Church of Scotland, and a student of the Bible throughout the world, who is a great devotee in these well-illustrated handbooks to one who has served the Word of God with such devoted brilliance, and who, as the atlas shows, has served his country to the last sacrifice.

CHRISTIANITY AND THE WAR.

It is the proper duty of the Church not only to minister comfort to those bereaved by the war, but to expound to the Christian mind the meaning and significance of the Christian faith in the midst of the war. There are three books to be read in dealing with such questions. The first one we take up is by the Rev. William Temple, Bishop of Exeter. His address was delivered at an appointed lecture in the General Theological Seminary, New York, and, being on neutral territory, he had to go warily. On the particular question of German knighthood in the war, and on her misdeeds of carrying it out, he is indiscreetly indiscreet. But in his wanderings (for that is what his wanderings are) he is not only a wanderer, but a wanderer. In the past many little of nationality, and now nationality is almost out of the Church. The Church has fallen in with the national temper, its temporal support to the war. In the past many little of nationality, and now nationality is almost out of the Church. The Church has fallen in with the national temper, its temporal support to the war. In the past many little of nationality, and now nationality is almost out of the Church. The Church has fallen in with the national temper, its temporal support to the war.

PALING'S ADVICE IN THE MATTER OF A NEW PIANO IS WORTH HAVING.

CHAPPELL, PIANOS.
(ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.)

They have a beautiful quality of tone, and are built of the finest materials, and are sold at a very low price.

W. H. PALING AND CO., LTD.,
336 GEORGE STREET, SYDNEY.

SOLE AGENTS FOR CHAPPELL, PIANOS, AND VICTOR PIANOS.

SCIENTIFIC GLEANINGS.

What every woman wants. It is no one being well groomed if you have a healthy complexion. A simple on your face every day will do it. The best has to be done by a simple and at the same time a simple. You cannot give you a healthy complexion all the time.

REMOVE PIMPLES AND SALLOW COMPLEXION.

FISHER'S PINK PILLS FOR THE LIVER.

FISHER AND CO.,
336 GEORGE STREET, SYDNEY.

MONSTER PATRIOTIC CARNIVALS.

STADIUM, TO-NIGHT.

TO-NIGHT, AT 8.30. TO-NIGHT.

AGRICULTURAL GROUND, TO-MORROW, AT 11.30.

PROGRAM OF A MAGNIFICENT AND ENTERTAINING SPECTACLE.

THE NEWEST IDEAS IN WALLPAPER.

H. H. GROTH AND CO.,
WALLPAPER SPECIALISTS, 325 GEORGE STREET, SYDNEY.

RUSTICATED WEATHERBOARDS.

GEORGE HUDSON AND SON, LTD.,
TIMBER MERCHANTS, GLEBE.

HORSES, VEHICLES, LIVE STOCK.

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METHODIST CONFERENCE

In respect of certain land in the municipality, by means of which false pretences were used to obtain a mortgage, Millett was intent to defraud. Mr. E. R. Abigail appeared for the defence.

It was further stated that Mrs. Middleton received an account from accused, who acted on business as an estate agent, and that she told him that he had paid her. This account she said to him, but he told her that he had not. It was then found that Iverson had not paid the council.

Mr. Justice, said that he at one time had owned property valued at about £100. He got into financial difficulties, and was obliged to sell it for £25. He was then intent, and thought that the rate had not been paid by his solicitors. He subsequently was appointed to the position of a clerk of Canterbury, and subsequently went into business as a house and land agent.

It was further found that Iverson was a very fond Iverson guilty, with a recommendation to the governor for a life term of imprisonment. He was remanded for sentence.

ASSAULT AND ATTEMPTED ROBBERY.

John Webb 21, pleaded not guilty to assaulting on Lee Long, at Sydney, on November 25, with intent to rob him, and also to the attempted robbery assault. Mr. McMahon defended Webb.

offence was committed, and that the offence was committed by the defendant, and he was sentenced to 18 months imprisonment in the Penitentiary for labour in Goulburn Gaol.

APPEALS.
(Before Judge Murray.)

Mr. Herbert Harris appeared for the Crown. CONVICTION QUASHED.

William Robinson appeared against his conviction. He was charged with the offence of attempting to steal a brush and a charge of larceny. He was sentenced to 18 months imprisonment. The sentence was reduced to 12 months. He was a good behaviour being furnished. On the depositions taken at the lower court, it was stated that from his knowledge of the man he was of the opinion that a mistake had been made in the man's pocket, his Honor said that the man was a gull, and quashed the conviction.

Mr. Agill appeared for the appellant. Mr. Agill appeared for the appellant.

SENTENCE REDUCED.

The sentence of 18 months imprisonment was reduced to 12 months imprisonment upon William George Doherty by Mr. Barnett, S.M., at the lower court. He was charged with larceny on a charge of stealing a rolled

CONVICTIONS CONFIRMED.—The Criminal Court confirmed the convictions of **JOHN PAYTEN**, S.M., at the Central Police Court, and sentenced to one month's gaol, for possession of 11 packets of cigarettes, valued at 6s. 6d., the property of the Chief Commissioner for Prisons, and **M. E. R. ABIGAIL** appeared for the defendant. The Criminal Court also confirmed the conviction of **JOHN SMITHERS**, S.M., at the Central Police Court, and sentenced to one month's gaol, for possession of 11 packets of cigarettes, valued at 6s. 6d., the property of the Chief Commissioner for Prisons, and **M. E. R. ABIGAIL** appeared for the defendant.

LAND APPEAL COURT.—The Land Appeal Court confirmed the conviction of **JOHN SMITHERS**, S.M., at the Central Police Court, and sentenced to one month's gaol, for possession of 11 packets of cigarettes, valued at 6s. 6d., the property of the Chief Commissioner for Prisons, and **M. E. R. ABIGAIL** appeared for the defendant.

RE EXECUTRIX AND EXECUTOR OF LATE D. SCOTT.—The Land Appeal Court confirmed the conviction of **JOHN SMITHERS**, S.M., at the Central Police Court, and sentenced to one month's gaol, for possession of 11 packets of cigarettes, valued at 6s. 6d., the property of the Chief Commissioner for Prisons, and **M. E. R. ABIGAIL** appeared for the defendant.

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RESTAURANT KEEPERS.

At a recent meeting of the Caterers, and Restaurant Keepers' Association was held at Mann's Cafe on Monday for the election of new officers and to consider the new law the association has lodged with the man of the board. The new law, it was stated, makes very little variation of the law now existing, as the association is of opinion that the law is not the proper time for any material alteration in the provisions of the employers.

It cannot get a better health-resting than the one that brings you health. That medicine, thousands assert, is the tonic.

It will always be Asmus's, and Lipson's **Flax Oil** continues—best.

POST BELLUM TRADE

THAT ENGLAND IS DOING,

SOME RECOMMENDATION.

II.

far, less has been done in England in direction of preparing for trade after the war than in Australia. When Mr. Asquith was asked to make some ideas on this subject he refused. The present position in hand at the moment was the problem of the war, he said: post bellum problems could remain till victory was secured, and he was at least assured. While that was done, a very proper attitude for the Prime Minister to adopt it is not the proper attitude for the mercantile community. They are to think and plan, and that is the time they are doing. Although England is forward in practical legislation, she is very backward in ideas.

Mr. Runciman, the President of the Board of Trade, recently made a fine speech in the House of Commons on the subject. The following followed the moving of a resolution in the following effect:

That, with a view to increasing the com-

The Allies in the prosecution of the war, His Majesty's Government should be able to enter into any negotiations with the Governments of the Dominions in order to bring about the wholehearted support of the Empire in co-operation with our Allies in a policy directed against the enemy."

Runciman mentioned certain industries in which the Government were monopolizing before the war, such as telegraphs and already commencing to be nationalized. Several others might be nationalized, such as coalmines, gas, water, electricity, railways, etc. He said, "We have to consider the question of the nationalization of already existing industries, such as the production of optical glass which has never been equalled abroad, and the production of certain types of glass which have become a great development with German assistance, through the formation of the ICI, Ltd. With regard to the latter, I am sure that the Government will be able to do so." He said that the work of the research department was of a high standard and satisfactory, and pointed out the following dictum of the President of the Trade Union Congress:

"Therefore put down as one of the main

country, if she is to hold her own. She has to work out her own way of life, it is clear, but she must also work out her own research methods. The training of her young men. We must not attempt to impose on her any system based on technical colleges and vocational schools. She must gain her pre-war predominance in the world of science and research. She must win back her scientific leadership partly by making use of the methods of the German universities, but she must also be able to do this, besides the lever afforded by a protective tariff, but not a little also by intelligent Government action. She must be able to organize and plan, and to know how to use her own resources. She must be able to encourage and to avail herself of scientific research. It is believed that German engineers and scientists have been the best in the world. It is again well known that Germany has permitted her former standard in Great Britain, the Empire, to be displaced by the United States in the free market. The establishment of a Customs Union between the British Empire and its Allies, which was suggested in the speech, would, no doubt, ensure that some of the most important of the world's resources would be made inalienable, if not indestructible, and it should be regarded as a necessary condition of any kind of concession. In any case, the Central Empires' power of swamping the world with irremovable iron and steel is a fact to come to account for.

various chambers of commerce, in a more active. The London Chamber appeared as a speaker and the subject of the report of the Chamber after the war, and thereupon he made the following remarks:

That any measures which may be considered in connection with trade during and after the war should provide—(a) For general reciprocal trading relations between all countries; (b) For special reciprocal trading relations between the British Empire and the Allied countries; for the favourable treatment of neutral countries; and (c) For special reciprocal trading relations with all other countries, so as to render impossible any discrimination in conditions, and for stimulating the development of new industries and the consequent increased resources of native labour.

That steps should be taken to prevent dumping and the devaluation of currencies into British markets after the war.

That discriminatory taxes be levied on tonnage of foreign ships entering the ports of the British Empire.

That the Government be urged to encourage the production and utilization of materials of British origin in the Colonies and the Empire under such legislative control as may prevent their being controlled or on behalf of subjects of enemy countries.

That the naturalization laws of the Empire be amended so as to prevent the acquisition of British citizenship by subjects which have been disclosed since the outbreak of the war.

That further legislation, especially in regard to enemy holdings in British Colonies and Empire, be necessary to safeguard the interests of the Empire.

That the policy of the German Government is organizing its subjects residing in any part of the British Empire for commercial, industrial, financial and military purposes.

That the Government be urged to maintain in peace, with a view to military preparation in time of war.

That His Majesty's Government be urged to encourage the production of war supplies by subjects or otherwise, of any "key" industries established prior to the outbreak of the war.

That the Government be urged to take such steps as may be necessary to prevent the export of war materials to the enemy.

importance of British trade, under altered conditions caused by the war, his Majesty's Government are appointing a committee of experts, of which Mr. Chamberlain is one, to whom some of the functions of the Board of Trade and other departments should be relegated. The subject is of great importance as a re-organizing of Empire policy naturally presents many difficult tasks, but none of them may be more important than that they may in the future be narrowed down to comparatively simple ones. The Committee of the London Conference has also pointed out that the war is the ultimate end; it is not too early to discuss means. "Consideration of questions which involve no direct struggle with the enemy, but of securing decisive victory for allies, and ever since the war broke out the means of commerce and business men have been required to find ways and means for reconciling the successful progress of the war with the mobilization of economic resources for the purpose of greater utilization for present and future developments. The Committee, in stating that on the main question of the war, the opinion among the

trade associations and Allied Associations, on a very broad scale, is quite clear that commercial opinion is in favour of the Government and of Parliament in its determination that the economic conditions which will be the result of the war should not be anything like those which would be rendered impossible if the Empire is to hold its own. The conditions which would be rendered impossible if the Empire is to hold its own in the countries in which it is not expected to have an economic union must not be overlooked. It is common ground that economic conditions have to be such as to permit of the maintenance of commercial relations within the Empire itself, and also between the Empire and the Allies, with fair advantage to the Empire. It is also of course a fact that the economic conditions which home industries should be able to meet are not the same as those which foreign and the Empire made possible. It is a policy in which the Government is not prepared to object to operate against enemy trade interests, but which is not intended to be subject to any economic conditions which are not subject to the same conditions and does not preclude other measures of a different character which are brought in by the Government. The unanimous feeling that needs to be maintained is that the Government is not prepared to agree to the agreement between business and the Government on the question of the views on the subject of the Government's policy, which are not only divergent.

is doubtless the proper spirit of the clash of ideas that is now taking place in the old country, something profound should certainly result.

VERDUN.

BATTLE CONTINUES.

MASSING OF TROOPS.

GERMAN FLEET

STRANGE MOVEMENTS.

The Germans are massing in every sector for the attack on Verdun. Lively bombardments are proceeding westward of the Meuse and in the Woëvre.

Enormous quantities of heavy artillery and huge mobile guns are being used by the enemy.

The fighting at Hill 265 is described as even more obstinate than at Douaumont, the Germans being repulsed twenty times before they won the slopes.

Though the Germans have had some gains on both wings, it is stated that the general French defences have not been affected.

It is stated that the German troops in Bulgaria have been ordered to proceed to the west front.

A Dutch trawler is reported to have sighted a fleet of 50 German warships, accompanied by submarines, on Monday, proceeding westward.

The German fleet is said to have returned to its base.

The Russians have occupied Rizeh on the Black Sea coast, east of Trebizond.

Of 40,000 Armenians who were at Erzerum prior to its capture only 16 were found alive by the Russians.

THE BALKANS.

PEACE MOVEMENT IN TURKEY.

GRAND VIZIER'S ATTITUDE.

LONDON, March 9. Telegrams from Athens, Mr. H. D. Jones says that at a recent meeting of the Turkish Committee the Grand Vizier Said Halim Pasha upheld the contention for an immediate peace with the Entente Powers. Eventually the committee decided to await the result of fighting on the French front, in view of the potential armistice. The Porte has ordered the removal of Rizeh from the Dardanelles.

GERMANS LEAVING.

TO FIGHT ON FRENCH FRONT.

LONDON, March 8. Mr. M. T. Donohue, telegraphing from Athens, says the German army in Bulgaria has been ordered to be in readiness to depart from its present front. One division which was at Rostukh has left for the west front.

THE SERBIAN ARMY.

CORFU, March 9. The Serbian army has been heavily equipped and clothed, and is in excellent health.

RUSSIAN TROOPS.

PRESSURE ON TURKS.

RISEH OCCUPIED.

PETROGRAD, March 9. A communique states—Troops on the coast of the Black Sea are pressing the Turks closely, and have occupied Rizeh, east of Trebizond. We occupied Rizeh, in Persia (50 versts north of Kermanshah).

ARMENIANS MASSACRED.

It is officially stated that 40,000 Armenians at Erzerum were found alive by the Russians a few days before the capture of the town, above all the Armenians, and the Kurds, who had been forwarded, massacred them.

GERMAN LIE.

BRITISH UNIONISTS AND SWISS WORKERS.

LONDON, March 8. The report from Zurich relating to a German agent to have been received in London from British trade unionists, denouncing the employment of Swiss munition workers in England, is a German lie. It is intended to prejudice Swiss munition workers against coming to England.

WESTERN FRONT.

GERMANS MASSING.

THE MEUSE FIGHTING.

HUGE GUNS EMPLOYED.

LONDON, March 8.

The fighting at Hill 265 was even more obstinate than at Douaumont. The Germans were repulsed twenty times before they won the slopes, followed by a large force of armoured trawlers, two big Zeppelins, and numerous submarines proceeding westward.

The feature of the battle is the enormous quantities of German heavy artillery and huge mobile guns, while the field artillery is merely an accessory.

The French losses at Hill 265, notwithstanding the inferiority of the position, were very high, while the German division storming and capturing the hill was decimated. Five German generals were killed in the Verdun district, including General Lotterer, commander of a division of artillery, and General von Graf, a Bavarian.

The Germans are now massing in every sector for the attack, and are bringing up their reserves.

FLAMING LIQUIDS.

A correspondent to the American Associated Press, who visited Verdun, says there is less damage than was anticipated. No buildings were destroyed. An artillery officer stated that on the first day's bombardment 80,000 shells fell in a single sector 1000 metres long and 600 broad.

A general officer told the correspondent that Germany lost 80,000 killed. A number of French soldiers were buried alive by Germans lawning flaming liquids.

THE THIRD PHASE.

PARIS, March 9.

The third phase of the battle opened on Sunday, when the French artillery duelled commenced west of the Meuse. Woods were levelled and Forges Brook ceased to run. Shell-bursts damaged the stream in six places. The crest of Hill 213 was blown away to a depth of 30 feet.

The main French position at Gouze Hill is still unscathed. The Germans are generally planning that there should be three simultaneous attacks, with a feinting attack on Woëvre Plain, and a strong attack on the west bank of the Meuse.

It is believed that the German plan is to capture the French position at Gouze Hill by a violent assault, having been ordered to force their way through a narrow country lane leading to the top of the hill, jeopardising the extreme French right at Gouze Hill.

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CROWN PRINCE HYPONOTISED.

Douaumont hypnotised the Crown Prince who had to justify his boasted capture of the position. He used 250,000 men there against the advice of his generals, who were in favour of attacking on the west bank. The latter attack has now developed.

Attackers have lost almost all their officers, owing to the German Emperor ordering officers up to the rank of general to lead their men in action instead of following them.

WHAT THE FRENCH DESIRED.

It is officially stated that, though the Germans have had some gains on both wings, the general French defences have not been affected. Forges (which the enemy occupied) is becoming untenable owing to floods.

The founders are able to inflict heavy losses in withdrawal. It is exactly that which the French commanders desired. The German gain on the slopes of Gouze Hill was not worth the sacrifices made.

FRENCH COMMUNIQUE.

The following communique has been issued. The enemy attacked fresh from the west of the Meuse, under cover of an intense bombardment. A strong attack on Bethincourt was repulsed. Counter-attacks drove the enemy from the greater part of Corbeaux Wood. He only occupies the eastern extremity.

There was a violent German bombardment at Douaumont. The enemy attacked east of this position failed.

The enemy reoccupied Hardcourt redoubt.

Sixteen of our aeroplanes dropped 124 bombs on the Metz-Aubois station, where there were several trains. The projectiles found their mark. Fifteen of the machines returned.

GERMAN CLAIM.

A German wireless message says—We stormed the enemy position on the left bank of the Meuse on both sides of the Forges Brook. The Germans were driven out of width of four miles and a depth of two miles. We occupied the villages of Forges and Regneville, also the heights of Corbeaux and Cumieres Wood. The greater number of the occupants of the captured positions perished. We took prisoner, 38 officers and 377 men. We have driven out the French from the last houses in Forges.

COLONEL REPPINGTON'S VIEWS.

LONDON, March 9.

Colonel Repington, the military correspondent of the "Times," says the German at Verdun commenced moving up heavy guns a distance of three miles on February 27, and it is expected that at least ten days or a fortnight will elapse before they have completed the task, especially as the weather is bad. The advance of heavy batteries to the line Bethincourt-Forges is difficult. Roads must be prepared, supplies and magazines built, the guns registered, and the whole of the artillery linked up by telephone.

ARMED SHIPS.

GERMANY'S LATEST OFFER.

WASHINGTON, March 8. Germany has informed the United States Government that she is willing to govern her submarines in accordance with international law, provided the other belligerents do not violate international law.

ZEPPELIN RAID.

OFFICIAL REPORT.

It is officially announced that the casualties sustained during the last air raid on the north-east coast of England were—Killed: Nine men, four women, and five children. Injured: Twenty-two men, twenty-two women, and eight children.

GERMAN FLEET.

FIFTY WARSHIPS.

SIGHTED BY DUTCH TRAWLER.

LONDON, March 8.

A telegram from Ymuiden (Netherlands) states that a trawler, reports having sighted off Terschelling on Monday afternoon a fleet of at least 50 German warships, followed by a large force of armoured trawlers, two big Zeppelins, and numerous submarines proceeding westward.

On Monday morning five large cruisers of an unknown nationality passed within a few miles of the coast of the Netherlands. It is conjectured that the fleet is connected with an attempt to break the British blockade.

BACK TO ITS BASE.

AMSTERDAM, March 9.

The German fleet has returned to its base. The funnels of some of the vessels are conspicuously painted. One is painted a conspicuous yellow. The rest are an invisible grey.

It is noteworthy that recent reports from Germany indicate that such vessels would play a part in Germany's new commerce raiding and mine-laying policy.

THE MOEWEE.

CAPTAIN DECORATED.

AMSTERDAM, March 8.

The German Emperor personally bestowed the Prussian Order of Merit on the captain of the raider Moewe.

THE NAVY DEBATE.

MR. CHURCHILL'S CRITICISM.

RESENTED BY MR. BALFOUR.

LONDON, March 8.

During the debate on the Navy estimates Mr. A. J. Balfour (First Lord of the Admiralty) said Mr. Winston Churchill's speech was unfortunate, both in form and substance, and was calculated to arouse doubts, misgivings, and suspicions. There had not been any breach of continuity in the work of the last and present Admiralty boards.

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MR. HUGHES.

A BUSY TIME.

IMPORTANT DISCUSSIONS.

LONDON, March 8.

Mr. W. M. Hughes (Prime Minister of Canada) is in the "Times" statement that he is the ambassador of Canada and New Zealand, and has himself called a denial to Mr. Massey (Prime Minister of New Zealand) and Sir R. L. Borden (Prime Minister of Canada).

Mr. Hughes spent a busy day at the office established at the Hotel Cecil where he is dealing with a mass of invitations.

Mr. Hughes interviewed the Prime Minister (Mr. Asquith) this morning for half an hour. It was a formal call, but they discussed the general situation. The chief outcome of the visit was that Mr. Hughes was invited to attend a meeting of the Cabinet on Thursday.

Subsequently Mr. Hughes saw Mr. Bonar Law (Secretary of State for the Colonies), and discussed several matters of importance, including proposals for shipping Australian wheat to London and (re)light; also metal questions, dealing particularly with proposals for handling steel.

Mr. Hughes said Mr. Bonar Law was most sympathetic in his desire to help Australia, and has been ever since he took office.

Mr. Hughes also interviewed General Sir William R. Robertson (Chief of the Imperial General Staff), and in the evening he dined with Mr. Bonar Law.

AUDIENCE WITH KING.

The most important event on Thursday will be an audience with the King. It is evident that Mr. Hughes has a very important programme to discuss with the King. He has received a large number of requests for deputations on the income tax, immigration, and metal questions.

Several dinners are being arranged, and it is now thought unlikely that he will conclude his visit in less than six weeks. Mr. Hughes and his family submitted to a raid by press photographers for nearly an hour. They met several Australian soldiers, and are arranging a visit to the hospitals.

AUSTRALIA'S LOYALTY.

The "Pall Mall Gazette," commenting on the arrival of Mr. Hughes, says the effect of the war on the Commonwealth has been to evoke an assertion of imperial kinship far more vigorous and more pronounced than the most sanguine of us could have hoped for. Readiness of loyalty, volume of sacrifice, brilliance, heroism, and tenacity of purpose were distinguishing features of Australia's part in the Empire's crisis, and were too near our heart to be fluently barked by tongue or pen.

The claim of the Dominions to an active voice in world politics was irrefragable and overwhelming. Our politicians and shirked these matters too long, with characteristic lack of faith and initiative, until the hour of action had come.

UNSHAKEN RESOLUTION.

Mr. Hughes has issued an Australian message as follows:—"Across the leagues of ocean Australia greets Britain in this the greatest war in the history of the race. Impelled by glorious traditions and common ancestry, the people of the dominions fight side by side with those of the motherland, with unshaken resolution to achieve a decisive victory over the enemy."

Mr. Hughes, in an interview with the representatives of the "Times," said:—"I shall go to Montgomeryshire and see my Welsh friends. I know Llanmafraidd and Llandudno well."

Mr. Hughes said the following message to Wales:—"Cymeru, am byth ar gored" (Wales for ever best).

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE VISIT.

The "Financial Times" says:—"The visit of Mr. Hughes to London is the most important and most significant imperial event of the year. Mr. Hughes will attend the Paris Conference. If the conference results in an understanding as to a joint commercial policy, our colonies will have been instrumental in creating the most formidable commercial league the world has seen."

ECONOMIC WAR.

LONDON, March 9.

The "Times," in its leading article, says:—"The moment is at hand for settling our trade policy, in concert with the Dominions and our Allies. Mr. Asquith recently referred in very encouraging terms to Mr. Hughes's visit, and the prospects of arriving at a complete understanding with the Dominions."

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WAR NOTES.

THE BATTLE OF VERDUN.

This morning's cables suggest that the Germans are preparing for one more supreme effort at Verdun. While they are hammering at the French flanks to the north-west and south-east of the fortress, where their artillery has all along been in position, we are told that they are hard at work bringing up their guns to the new line on the heights of the Meuse, and are moving forward great infantry reserves on all sectors.

The offensive, reports are accurate, then during the next day or two we shall have the battle being waged with a greater intensity than ever and on a wider front than was hitherto the case. The indications are that the main weight of the enemy will still be thrown down along the heights immediately north and north-east of the town. There is still no news of a formidable counter-offensive. It is possible that the whole attention is to be devoted to Verdun, but a formidable blow down Alsace will by no means come as a surprise.

The fighting covered by the German cables has resulted in slight German gains on the northern and southern wings of the salient, the advance in the north including the occupation of the village of Renneville, which lies about a mile and a half south of the town. The French, whose line is obviously most awkwardly placed in this sector, are taking a tremendous toll of the enemy for every yard of ground they gain, and when the Germans have come to a halt, the French have themselves hardly come to their advantage here during the past couple of days as worth the cost, for instead of it giving them an increasing advantage, it has, on the contrary, essentially tending to straighten out the latter's line.

"THE GERMAN FLEET OUT."

There was quite a flutter of excitement when the news was published yesterday that a big section of the German fleet, numbering at least 50 warships, together with a number of submarines and armoured trawlers, as well as two Zeppelins, had been sighted off Terschelling Island, and not a few jumped to the conclusion that the Teutons had come to fight at last.

It is true, however, that the ships had returned to their base; so the prospect of a big naval battle once more recedes to the background. As to the idea under-lying the very brief cruise just mentioned, it is not clear, but it is possible that the ships were sent out for the purpose of testing the strength of the British fleet, and not a few jumped to the conclusion that the Teutons had come to fight at last.

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It is true, however, that the ships had

have been wise to have accepted the vote in the House in favour of a check.

The will of the people would be clearly expressed if there were no pumping and voters were allowed to indicate the order of preference apart from the closing hour in which they are in favour.

NATIONALIZATION URGED.

Captain Tombs said that the bill should be amended, and nationalized the liquor industry. (Ministerial action, if possible, he welcomed the referendum.)

ORDER OF NUMBERS.

Mr. Bruntell expressed the opinion that the measure would be improved if the order of the bill paper were put in numerical order, commencing at 1 and going on to 11, and so on, commencing at 1 and finishing at 11 (Opposition cheers).

VOTING PAPER.

The voting paper, with figures in the inverse order, alluded to by Mr. Bruntell, was contained in the following form:

Order of preference. Closing hour. Eleven. Ten. Eight. Seven.

PREMIER'S REPLY.

The Premier replied the system of "pumping" by pointing out that there was a large number of people who wanted to vote for 9 o'clock, and outside of 9 o'clock had no opinion whatever. He proposed to give the right to pump the measure, and the majority voting did not prevent an absolute majority being obtained. The whole principle was to obtain a majority of the voters who were still operating. There was serious danger of doing some injustice to a section of the community, and the Premier declared for a definite hour. He declared that the right to "pump" was hostile to the principle of preferential voting, and he expressed himself opposed to the automatic preference system. To leave a man free to pump was to give a more fair reflex of public opinion than if he were forced to pump. The Premier declared that there would be no system of pumping, and he declared that the bill would be amended to provide for a definite hour of first votes.

The bill passed the second reading in committee, and was then considered in committee.

When moved to amend clause 1 so that it should be compulsory to indicate the second and third preference of hours.

The Premier moved to amend clause 1, which was defeated on a division by 26 to 24.

Mr. James objected to the schedule showing the hours at which the bill would be amended, and he thought that they should be shown in numerical order, commencing from 4 o'clock.

Mr. Holman pointed out that the schedule was drawn up in accordance with present conditions. It was a question of time, and what change they required from that condition of affairs.

Mr. James proposed to alter the schedule so that 4 o'clock be the first hour shown instead of 11. The motion was carried on a division by 26 to 24.

An amendment to delete the words "providing that the Governor might appoint the appointment of scrutineers to the persons named in the schedule" was defeated on a division by 26 to 24.

Other minor amendments were made to the bill, which was then considered in committee.

The committee's resolution was adopted, and the bill was then considered in committee.

MOVEMENT IN VICTORIA.

A bill for the movement in Victoria, and a number of general matters were dealt with.

VOTE ON SIX O'CLOCK CLOSING.

A bill for the vote on six o'clock closing, and a number of general matters were dealt with.

PLEA FOR ECONOMY.

A bill for the plea for economy, and a number of general matters were dealt with.

SENATOR MILLEN'S SPEECH.

A bill for the Senator Milken's speech, and a number of general matters were dealt with.

FINES FOR STRIKERS.

A bill for the fines for strikers, and a number of general matters were dealt with.

WIVES OF GERMAN.

A bill for the wives of German, and a number of general matters were dealt with.

UNEMPLOYED MINERS.

A bill for the unemployed miners, and a number of general matters were dealt with.

BUTTER INDUSTRY.

A bill for the butter industry, and a number of general matters were dealt with.

PROVISIONS OF NEW ACT.

A bill for the provisions of new act, and a number of general matters were dealt with.

MR. J. WEST MANTLAND.

A bill for the Mr. J. West Mantland, and a number of general matters were dealt with.

SOLDIER'S DEATH.

A bill for the soldier's death, and a number of general matters were dealt with.

CHARGE AGAINST A WOMAN.

A bill for the charge against a woman, and a number of general matters were dealt with.

BRISBANE.

A bill for the Brisbane, and a number of general matters were dealt with.

DETECTIVE POWER.

A bill for the detective power, and a number of general matters were dealt with.

DARLING ISLAND RAILWAY DEVIATION BILL.

A bill for the Darling Island railway deviation, and a number of general matters were dealt with.

ALLEN ON THE MOLL.

A bill for the Allen on the moll, and a number of general matters were dealt with.

BONDI CARNIVAL WEEK.

A bill for the Bondi carnival week, and a number of general matters were dealt with.

COLONEL BURNAGE.

A bill for the Colonel Burnage, and a number of general matters were dealt with.

EXPORT OF WOOL.

A bill for the export of wool, and a number of general matters were dealt with.

WELLINGTON (N.Z.).

A bill for the Wellington (N.Z.), and a number of general matters were dealt with.

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STATE SESSION.

LATE SITTING.

NORTH SHORE BRIDGE.

Wednesday's sitting of the Legislative Assembly continued into the small hours of yesterday morning. The House met again yesterday afternoon, and the referendum Bill relating to the early closing of hotels was the subject of the early sitting of the House.

The Bill was reported with amendments. At 12.30 p.m. the House adjourned until to-day.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

The Legislative Council, which sat last night, considered amendments made in the referendum Bill.

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A FEDERAL ORDER.

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An important regulation in relation to the prohibition against persons of enemy origin holding shares in Australian companies has been issued under the War Precautions Act.

The Controller-General of Customs has issued a public notice under the War Precautions Act.

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ENEMY SHAREHOLDERS.

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THE LIBERALS.

PREPARING FOR ELECTIONS.

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Inter-est in the next general election is now becoming general throughout the Liberal organization. An impact has been given by recent by-elections, by the arrangement to take place in about nine months. The annual meetings of the various branches will be practically all taken place before the end of the current month, and the officials are busy in steadily proceeding.

A change was made in the Liberal constitution at the last annual conference, whereby, in order to prevent the possibility of branches in the organization in electorates in the city and suburbs, and 200 in country electorates, the number of members was increased to 200 in the city and suburbs, and 200 in country electorates.

Further, that such members must have held membership for at least three months prior to the date of the election. In many electorates there are branches with the required number of qualified members, and steps in the direction of selection are being taken. Several of the city electorates in which the Liberal party are active are in the city and suburbs, and 200 in country electorates.

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